

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A directory server comprising:
  - a supplier server;
  - a consumer server in communication with the supplier server;
  - a plurality of pluggable services that manage replication of data contained within the directory server from the supplier server to the consumer server; and
  - a change sequence number used to determine ordering of operations performed on the consumer server;wherein the replication of data is managed using the change sequence number;  
wherein the change sequence number is a tuple comprising a ~~time stamp~~ timestamp portion, a sequence number portion, a replica identifier portion, and a sub-sequence number portion, and wherein the timestamp portion comprises a network offset component, wherein the network offset component is incremented when a first logical time on the consumer server is greater than a second logical time on the supplier server.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the highest value of the change sequence number is maintained in stable storage.
4. (Previously Presented) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the timestamp portion is represented by logical time and is thirty-two bits in length.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the sequence number portion is generated by an incremental counter and is sixteen bits in length.

7. (Previously Presented) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the replica identifier portion denotes an identifier of the consumer server that generated the change sequence number and is sixteen bits in length.
8. (Previously Presented) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the sub-sequence number is used to order operations within a single operation and is sixteen bits in length.
9. (Previously Presented) The directory server of claim 1, wherein the change sequence number is assigned when an entry is modified by a client.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a change sequence number, comprising:
  - initializing the change sequence number;
  - retrieving a timestamp portion, wherein the timestamp portion comprises a network offset component, wherein the network offset component is incremented when a first logical time on a first server is greater than a second logical time on a second server;
  - retrieving a sequence number portion;
  - retrieving a replica identifier portion;
  - retrieving a sub-sequence number portion; and
  - wherein the timestamp portion, the sequence number portion, the replica identifier portion, and the sub-sequence number portion are joined into a tuple that forms the change sequence number.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
  - maintaining a highest value of the change sequence number in stable storage.
12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the timestamp portion is represented by logical time and is thirty-two bits in length.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the sequence number portion is generated by an incremental counter and is sixteen bits in length.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the replica identifier portion denotes an identifier of a server that generated the change sequence number and is sixteen bits in length.
16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the sub-sequence number portion is used to order operations within a single operation and is sixteen bits in length.
17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the change sequence number is assigned when an entry is modified by a client.
18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a change sequence number, comprising:
  - means for initializing the change sequence number;
  - means for retrieving a timestamp portion;
  - means for retrieving a sequence number portion;
  - means for retrieving a replica identifier portion;
  - means for retrieving a sub-sequence number portion; and
  - means for joining the timestamp portion, the sequence number portion, the replica identifier portion, and the sub-sequence portion into a tuple that forms the change sequence number, wherein the timestamp portion comprises a network offset component, wherein the network offset component is incremented when a first logical time on a first server is greater than a second logical time on a second server.